



Judd Gregg, Chairman
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GREGG TO INTRODUCE BIOSHIELD BILL

S. 3 among Senate GOP's Top 10 legislative priorities

WASHINGTON—Sen. Judd Gregg today will introduce a bill to strengthen our nation's bioterror defense and response systems.

The Biopreparedness Act of 2005 is a part of S. 3 and is one of Senate Republicans' top ten legislative priorities for the 109th Congress. It builds on the Project BioShield program which Gregg, as chair of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, shepherded through Congress.

"The war on terror is a different kind of war and requires a different kind of preparedness," Gregg said. "Project BioShield is a major component of our defense against bioterror attacks, and this bill builds on that program to make sure we are ready to combat biological, radiological or nuclear agents."

Project BioShield provides for development of vaccines and remedies and the rapid deployment of these medicines in the event of bioterror attacks such as anthrax, smallpox and botulism.

"We made good progress by passing the historic BioShield bill last year," Gregg said. "But we need to do more to make sure that we have ready access to the products required."

"Specifically, this bill encourages development of products needed to protect the nation against biological, radiological or nuclear agents as well as infectious diseases. It expands the availability and accessibility of vaccines. Finally, it strengthens capacity and coordination, so we can respond effectively during public health emergencies."